

COACH HAMBRICK talks about the end of his marriage and Top Gun.

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I don't think there was anything I could have said to her to make her stay, but I could've done something. I could've realized *that* was the moment. I could've put myself on the line, took a risk and reached out.

It's like in that movie *Top Gun*. You know it gets to that part where Maverick might never fly again 'cause that dude from *Revenge of The Nerds* died and Maverick's all like 'it was all my fault' or whatever, and so he's gonna, like, just ride motorcycles aimlessly for the rest of his life? But then, you know, his country needs him. And you know who comes and saves his ass? You know who takes a risk and saves Maverick? Iceman. The dude who spent the whole movie treating Maverick like absolute shit. And then you get it, you're like, *ohhhh*, Iceman loved him *the whole time*, 'cause you can only be that mean to somebody if you're in love with 'em. Iceman don't *say* jack shit. He don't say 'Maverick I love you please don't leave me.' He's like Maverick get in your goddamn plane 'cause we got Russians to kill and your country needs you. Iceman *does something*. Iceman *takes a risk*. And they fly off into the sky together and blow up the Russians and save the day and in the end Iceman goes "Maverick you're still dangerous. But you can be my wingman anytime." And Maverick goes like this right here "Bullshit. You can be mine." And if that ain't the definition of love I don't know what is.

Even though Iceman knows Maverick ain't never gonna follow the rules, he loves him. And even though Maverick knows Iceman is a frigid bitch with ice water runnin' through his veins, he loves him back. Are they gonna fight again? Yes. Are they gonna argue over the mortgage and groceries and childcare? Yes. But will they eventually realize how much they need each other and make sweet airplane love flying over the ocean? I'd like to think so. But they wouldn't have got that chance if Iceman just let Maverick walk out.

And yeah, maybe you try and fight for it and it don't matter. Maybe she's too far gone. And maybe you get hurt. Well. Being in love is dangerous. It's a risk. Love and the lack thereof are deeply intertwined. The more you give into one, the more you open the door for the other. So what? The alternative is you do nothing and your plane sits on the runway to rot. So be dangerous. Take a risk. Reach out and take your partners hand and say whether it's Russians or miscommunication or sexual incompatibility, we're gonna figure it out together. 'Cause I'm your wingman. And I don't want nobody else but you to be mine.